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1. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and user computer, said storage medium for storing information readable by said user computer, said storage medium comprising:

encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer; [and]
a medium personal number which is [unique for each storage medium] particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium, wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium in an un-rewritable form which said user computer cannot rewrite, and said medium personal number is used for generating a decryption key for decrypting said encrypted electronic data in said user computer; and

permission information which includes the decryption key encrypted in a manner that is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer, and generated based upon said medium personal number, said permission information and said medium personal number enabling the user computer to decrypt the encrypted decryption key and to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted decryption key and the encrypted electronic data.

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6. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and user computer, said storage medium for storing information readable by said user computer, said storage medium comprising:

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encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer; [and]
a medium personal number which is [unique for each storage medium] particularly
personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of
another storage medium, wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the
storage medium in an un-rewritable form which said user computer cannot rewrite, and
said medium personal number is used for generating an encrypted permission information
in said vendor computer; and

permission information encrypted in a manner that is generated independent from
a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and generated based upon said
medium personal number, wherein the permission information and said medium personal
number enabling the user computer to decrypt the encrypted permission information and
to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use
the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted
permission information and the encrypted electronic data.

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11. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer
and a user computer, said storage medium for storing information readable by said user
computer, said storage medium comprising:

encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer;

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a medium personal number which is [unique for each storage medium] particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

encrypted permission information[,] that is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and generated based upon said medium personal number;

wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium in an unrewritable form which a user computer cannot rewrite, and wherein said encrypted permission information and said medium personal number enabling the user computer to decrypt the encrypted permission information and to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted permission information and the encrypted electronic data.

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17. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and user computer, said storage medium for storing information readable by said user computer, said storage medium comprising:

a medium personal number which is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium, wherein the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium in an un-rewritable form which a user storage reading apparatus cannot rewrite;

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encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer; and
information which is encrypted based on said medium personal number and is
encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and said
medium personal number is used for generating a decryption key, said decryption key
and said medium personal number enabling said user computer to decrypt said encrypted
electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus
number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

18. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer
and user computer, said storage medium for storing information readable by said user
computer, said storage medium comprising:

encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer;
a medium personal number which is particularly personal for each storage medium
and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium
in an un-rewritable form which the user storage reading apparatus cannot rewrite, and
said medium personal number is used for decrypting said encrypted electronic data; and

information which is encrypted based on said medium personal number and is
encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer, said
information and said medium personal number enabling said user computer to decrypt the

encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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19. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific first computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium, and accessible from a plurality of second computers which decrypt the encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium based upon the medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific second computer and which decrypt encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer, the storage medium comprising:

a first storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the second computer, the encrypted electronic data including electronic data encrypted based upon the decryption key;

a second storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from at least the second computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

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a third storage area for storing the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer,

wherein the encrypted decryption key in the third storage area and said medium personal number enables the second computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in the first storage area in a manner that the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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23. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific first computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium and which encrypts electronic data based upon the decryption key and which stores the encrypted electronic data onto the storage medium, and accessible from a plurality of second computers which decrypt the encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium based upon the medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific second computer and which decrypt encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium based upon the encrypted decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium

personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer, the storage medium comprising:

a first storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the second computer, the encrypted electronic data includes electronic data encrypted based upon the decryption key;

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a second storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from at least the second computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a third storage area for storing the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer,

wherein the encrypted decryption key in the third storage area and said medium personal number enables the second computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in the first storage area in a manner that the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

24. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent

from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:

a first storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by a user computer, the encrypted electronic data including electronic data encrypted based upon the decryption key;

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a second storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a third storage area for storing the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer,

wherein the encrypted decryption key in the third storage area and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in the first storage area in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

25. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium and which encrypts electronic data based upon

the encrypted decryption key and which stores the encrypted electronic data onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:

a first storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by a user computer, the encrypted electronic data including electronic data encrypted based upon the decryption key;

a second storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is unrewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a third storage area for storing the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer,

wherein the encrypted decryption key in the third storage area and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in the first storage area in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

26. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a plurality of computers which decrypt an encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium, the encrypted decryption key being based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer, and which decrypt encrypted

electronic data stored on the storage medium based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer, the storage medium comprising:

a first storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by a user computer, the encrypted electronic data including electronic data encrypted based upon the decryption key;

a second storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a third storage area for storing an encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein the encrypted decryption key in the third storage area and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in the first storage area in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

27. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a vendor computer and a user computer at different times, the storage medium comprising:

a first storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer, the encrypted electronic data including electronic data encrypted based upon a decryption key;

a second storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from the computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a third storage area for storing an encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer,

wherein the encrypted decryption key in the third storage area and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in the first storage area in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

28. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer, said storage medium comprising:

a first storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer, the encrypted electronic data including electronic data encrypted based upon a decryption key;

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a second storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-
rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage
medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and
a third storage area for storing an encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted
decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted
decryption key is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific
computer,

wherein the encrypted decryption key in the third storage area and said medium
personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in the
first storage area in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus
number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

29. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer
which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent
from a specific apparatus number for a specific first computer and which stores the
encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium, and accessible from a plurality of
second computers which decrypt the encrypted decryption key stored on the storage
medium based upon the medium personal number and independent from a specific
apparatus number for a specific second computer and which decrypt encrypted electronic
data stored on the storage medium based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted

based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer, the storage medium comprising:

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a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from at least the second computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the second computer and the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer, and wherein the encrypted decryption key and said medium personal number enables the second computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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33. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific first computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium and which encrypts electronic data to be decrypted by a specific second computer based upon the decryption key and which stores the encrypted electronic data onto the storage medium, and accessible from a

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plurality of second computers which decrypt the encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium based upon the medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for the specific second computer and which decrypt encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from at least the second computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing the encrypted electronic data and the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer, and wherein the encrypted decryption key and said medium personal number enables the second computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

34. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent

from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

a storage area for storing the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by a user computer which is accessible after the decryption key has been decrypted, wherein said decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

35. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium and which encrypts electronic data to be decrypted by a user computer based upon the decryption key and which stores the encrypted electronic data onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable,
wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium
and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data and the encrypted decryption
key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal
number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific
apparatus number for the specific computer, and wherein the encrypted decryption key
and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted
electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus
number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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36. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a plurality of
computers which decrypt an encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium, the
encrypted decryption key being based upon the medium personal number and
independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which enables
a user computer to decrypt encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium based
upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number
and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in a
particular computer, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable
from the computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for

each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

a storage area for storing the encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer; and

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a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data which is accessible after the decryption key has been decrypted, wherein said decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

37. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a vendor computer and a user computer at different times, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from the computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

a storage area for storing an encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted

decryption key is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer which is accessible after the decryption key has been decrypted, wherein said decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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38. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer, said storage medium, comprising:

a storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

a storage area for storing an encrypted decryption key, wherein the encrypted decryption key is generated based upon the medium personal number and the encrypted decryption key is generated independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer which is accessible after the decryption key has been decrypted, wherein said decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt

the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

39. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific first computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium, and accessible from a plurality of second computers which decrypt the encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium based upon the medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific second computer and which decrypt encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from at least the second computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the second computer, which includes data encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific first computer,

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wherein the second computer decrypts encrypted electronic data in a manner that
the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific first
computer in decrypting the encrypted decryption key and the encrypted electronic data.

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43. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer
which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent
from a specific apparatus number for a specific first computer and which stores the
encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium and which encrypts electronic data
based upon the decryption key and which stores the encrypted electronic data onto the
storage medium, and accessible from a plurality of second computers which decrypt the
encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium based upon the medium personal
number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific second
computer and which decrypt encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium
based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal
number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second
computer, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable
from at least the second computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly
personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of
another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the second computer, which includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer,

wherein the second computer decrypts encrypted electronic data in a manner that the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific second computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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44. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a vendor computer and a user computer, where the vendor computer encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which stores the encrypted decryption key onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer wherein the encrypted electronic data includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein said user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data in a manner that
the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer
in decrypting the encrypted decryption key and the encrypted electronic data.

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45. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a first computer
which encrypts a decryption key based upon a medium personal number and independent
from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which stores the encrypted
decryption key onto the storage medium and which encrypts electronic data to be
decrypted by a user computer based upon the decryption key and which stores the
encrypted electronic data onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:
 a storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-rewritable,
 wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium
 and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and
 a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data wherein the encrypted
 electronic data includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number
 and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,
 wherein the user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data in a manner that
 the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer
 in decrypting the encrypted decryption key and the encrypted electronic data.

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46. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from a plurality of computers which decrypt an encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium, the encrypted decryption key being based upon the medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and which decrypt encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in a particular computer, comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from the computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by a user computer wherein the encrypted electronic data includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein the user computer decrypts encrypted electronic data in a manner that the second computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted decryption key and the encrypted electronic data.

47. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessible from different computers at different times, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-rewritable from the computers, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by a user computer, which includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer; and

a storage area for storing electronic data which is accessible after the encrypted electronic data has been decrypted,

wherein the medium personal number enables a user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted decryption key encrypted electronic data.

48. (Four Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer, said storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer which includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer; and a storage area for storing electronic data which is accessible after the encrypted electronic data has been decrypted,

wherein the medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted decryption key and the encrypted electronic data.

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49. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer in a manner such that a decryption key is encrypted based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and the encrypted decryption key is stored onto the storage medium, and accessed in a manner such that the encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium is decrypted based upon the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer and that encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium is decrypted based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer, the storage medium comprising:

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a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable,
wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium
and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user
computer, wherein the encrypted electronic data includes information encrypted based
upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific
apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein the decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user
computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer
does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the
encrypted electronic data.

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53. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer
and a user computer in a manner such that a decryption key is decrypted based upon a
medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a
specific computer and the encrypted decryption key is stored onto the storage medium
and that electronic data is encrypted based upon the decryption key and the encrypted
electronic data is stored onto the storage medium, and accessed in a manner such that the
encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium is decrypted based upon the
medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the
specific computer and that the encrypted electronic information stored on the storage

medium is decrypted based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in a particular second computer in different time, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing a medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

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a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer, wherein the encrypted electronic data includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein the decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

54. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer in a manner such that a decryption key is encrypted based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and that the encrypted decryption key is stored onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer, wherein the encrypted electronic data includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein the decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

55. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer in a manner such that a decryption key is encrypted based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and the encrypted decryption key is stored onto the storage medium and that electronic data is encrypted based upon the decryption key and the encrypted electronic data is stored onto the storage medium, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer, wherein the encrypted electronic data includes information encrypted based upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein the decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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56. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer in a manner such that an encrypted decryption key stored on the storage medium is decrypted based upon a medium personal number and independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and encrypted electronic data stored on the storage medium is decrypted based upon the decryption key that has been decrypted based on the medium personal number and independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer, the storage medium comprising:

a storage area for storing the medium personal number, which is un-rewritable, wherein the medium personal number is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

a storage area for storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer, wherein the encrypted electronic data includes information encrypted based

upon the medium personal number and encrypted independent from the specific apparatus number for the specific computer,

wherein the decryption key and said medium personal number enables the user computer to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

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111. (Four Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and user computer, said storage medium for storing information readable by said user computer, said storage medium comprising:

an area storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer;
an area storing a medium personal number which is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium, wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium in an un-rewritable form which the user computer cannot change; and

an area storing permission information which includes a decryption key encrypted in a manner that is independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and based upon said medium personal number, wherein said permission information and said medium personal number enabling the user computer to decrypt the encrypted decryption key and to decrypt the encrypted electronic data in a manner that the user

computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted decryption key and the encrypted electronic data.

112. (Four Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and user computer, said storage medium for storing information readable by said user computer, said storage medium comprising:

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an area storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer;
an area storing a medium personal number which is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium, wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium in an un-rewritable form which the user computer cannot rewrite; and
wherein the user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data using permission information which is encrypted in a manner that is independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer and based upon said medium personal number.

113. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium accessed by a vendor computer and a user computer said storage medium for storing information readable by said user computer, said storage medium comprising:

an area storing encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer;

an area storing a medium personal number which is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium; and

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wherein the user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data using permission information that is encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer;

wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium in an un-rewritable form which a user computer cannot rewrite.

119. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium readable by a vendor computer and a user computer, said storage medium comprising:

data representing a medium personal number;

encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer; and

first data that is based on the medium personal number and encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer, wherein the medium personal number is un-rewritable and particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium, and wherein the user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data using the first data in a manner that the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

123. (Five Times Amended) A storage medium readable by a vendor computer and a user computer at different times, the storage medium comprising:

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data representing a medium personal number;
encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer; and
first data that is based on the medium personal number and encrypted independent
from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer, wherein the medium personal
number is un-rewritable and particularly personal for each storage medium and is
different from a medium personal number of another storage medium, and wherein the
user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data using the first data in a manner that
the user computer does not use the specific apparatus number for the specific computer in
decrypting the encrypted electronic data.

124. (Four Times Amended) A storage medium for storing data for access and
processing by a vendor computer and a user computer, said storage medium comprising:
a medium personal number storage area including a medium personal number
which is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium
personal number of another storage medium, wherein the medium personal number is
written onto the storage medium in an un-rewritable form which a user storage reading
apparatus cannot rewrite;

an electronic information storage area including encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer; and

the user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data based upon an encrypted decryption key which has been encrypted based on said medium personal number and encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer.

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125. (Four Times Amended) A storage medium for storing data for access and processing by a vendor computer and a user computer, said storage medium comprising:

an encrypted electronic data storage area including encrypted electronic data to be decrypted by the user computer;

a medium personal number storage area including a medium personal number which is particularly personal for each storage medium and is different from a medium personal number of another storage medium;

wherein at least the medium personal number is written onto the storage medium in an un-rewritable form which the user storage reading apparatus cannot rewrite, and said medium personal number enables decrypting of said encrypted electronic data from the user computer; and

wherein the user computer decrypts the encrypted electronic data based upon information which is encrypted based on said medium personal number and encrypted independent from a specific apparatus number for a specific computer.